

Message Text

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ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 AGRE-00 EB-08 COME-00 OMB-01

TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 IGA-02 L-03 ABF-01 SSO-00

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O 231022Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY DACCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3971

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DEPT PASS AGRICULTURE AND AID/ASIA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, EAGR, BG

SUBJ: PL-480 NEGOTIATIONS: FURTHER AMENDMENTS

REF: DACCA 1495

1. WE LEARNED MARCH 22 (FROM IMF) THAT BDG, TO MEET FY 1977
DOMESTIC PROCUREMENT TARGET, IS CONTEMPLATING RESTRICTING
PRIVATE SECTOR PURCHASES OF WHEAT AND POSSIBLE ADOPTING

COMPULSORY PROCUREMENT SYSTEM FOR WHEAT INCLUDING RESTRICTIONS
ON FREE SALES BETWEEN DISTRICTS. WHILE WE FAVOR VIGOROUS
PROCUREMENT EFFORT, WE DO NOT WISH SEE BDG REVERSE COURSE
FROM LAST FALL'S MEASURES TO ENCOURAGE PRIVATE SECTOR
PURCHASES OF FOODGRAINS. DEPT. WILL RECALL THAT LAST FALL
BDG LIFTED ANTI-HOARDING RESTRICTIONS ON PRIVATE GRAIN
DEALERS AND EXTENDED CREDIT AGAINST GRAIN STOCKS.

2. TO ENSURE THAT OUR PL-480 SELF-HELP LANGUAGE COULD
NOT BE INTERPRETED TO PERMIT SUCH RESTRICTIVE MEASURES
WE INTEND, UNLESS ADVISED TO THE CONTRARY, TO PROPOSE
AT MARCH 24 SESSION REDRAFTED TEXTS OF TWO CLAUSES
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IN SELF-HELP PARAS. AS FOLLOWS:

(A) ITEM V, SUB-PARA. C1, ADDING WORD "VOLUNTARY" SO THAT
FULL PHRASE WOULD READ AS FOLLOWS: QTE ENSURE REMUNERATIVE
PRICES FOR DOMESTIC AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION BY MAKING
TIMELY AND APPROPRIATE EFFORTS TO REACH THE GOVERNMENT'S
FY 77 VOLUNTARY PROCUREMENT TARGET OF 500,000 MT OF FOODGRAINS

END QTE.

(B) ITEM V, PARA. C2 BKDELETION OF QTE EITHER EN QTE
SUBSTITUTING QTE DOMESTIC END QTE FOR QTE IN NATIONAL AND
REGIONAL END QTE; AND SUBSTITUTING QTE AND/OR END QTE FOR
QTE OR END QTE.

3. COMMENT: WE ARE AWARE THAT THERE IS ALREADY CONSIDERABLE
POSITIVE LANGUAGE IN ITEM V, CONCERNING ENCOURAGING PRIVATE
PARTICIPATION IN FOODGRAIN PROCUREMENT, AND THAT BDG NEGOTIATORS
HAVE STRESSED THEIR COMMITMENT TO A VOLUNTARY PROCUREMENT
PROGRAM (SEE PARA. 7, DACCA 1441). NEVERTHELESS, WE
BELIEVE IT IMPORTANT AVOID EVEN POSSIBILITY OF BDG
RETURNING TO COMPULSORY PROCUREMENT DRIVE OF 1974 OR STRONGLY
DISINCENTIVE APPROACH OF RESTRICTING FREE INTER-DISTRICT
MOVEMENT OF FOODGRAINS IN BANGLADESH.
MASTERS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PL 480, ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, GRAINS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977DACCA01516
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770099-0408
Format: TEL
From: DACCA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770332/aaaabblu.tel
Line Count: 79
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 96a7aab3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AID
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 DACCA 1495
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3027753
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PL-480 NEGOTIATIONS: FURTHER AMENDMENTS
TAGS: EAID, EAGR, BG
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/96a7aab3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009